KAKAO 79

Chapter 36: Test of Courage (3)

BY AOI UMI

AMPLIFIED (TL, TS)
AIJIISHIBASHI
DUNE (PR, CL)

WHY WAS I HERE WITH TENDOU ...

MAYBE SHE...

WHY ARE YOU ASKING THAT?

WAIT? CAN YOU NOT ANSWER A QUESTION WITH ANOTHER QUESTION?

PLEASE. TELL ME FIRST.

WHY

ARE YOU

CURIOUS ABOUT THAT?

Please.

Right. Of course you'd get curious. Well, aren't you being logical here, Gorilla. You okay?

Could this be, seriously

IF I SPILL OUT EVERTHING I KNOW RIGHT HERE.

WILL THAT RULE UP TENDOU AND WILL TSUBASA KEEP A DISTANCE FROM TACHIBANA?

BUT IF SHE FINDS OUT TENDOU'S REAL MOTIVES AND GETS HURT. BECAUSE OF THAT

SHE'D BE CONVINCED AGAIN THAT SHE'S JUST A HINDRANCE

WHICH WILL MAKE HER SAD AND REGRET IT.

...IT'S MY FIRST TIME MEETING TENDOU...

MY KNOWLEDGE OF HER

WHEN I SAID I WASN'T GETTING GOOD VIBES FROM HER, IT'S BECAUSE SHE DITCHED YOU LAST TIME.

...THAT'S MY ONLY REASON FOR...

SAYING THAT... WHY?

LOOK THIS WAY. MAKE EYE CONTACT AND SAY THAT.

Too slow. Too slow. Too slow. You must look more than twice as much as that to me.

SEE, I JUST MADE EYE CONTACT... LET GO NOW...

COULD THIS ACTUALLY NOT BE YOUR FIRST TIME MEETING TENDOU-SAN?

CAN YOU NOT ANSWER A QUESTION WITH ANOTHER QUESTION?

I DON'T WANNA HEAR THAT FROM YOU

DID YOU...

CRY?

HUH?

YOU SAID YOU'RE NOT GETTING GOOD VIBES FROM HER SO I SHOULDN'T GET CLOSE TO HER, AND I GOT WORRIED BECAUSE OF THAT.

BUT THEN YOU TWO APPEARED OFF COURSE THE TEST OF COURAGE ROUTE.

PLUS YOU SEEMED LIKE YOU'RE GETTING ALONG WELL. SO I THOUGHT WAS STUPID FOR WORRYING. THAT'S WHY I ASKED.

WHAT OF IT?

HUUH?! NAND, I DIDN'T + CRY 69

LOOK HERE AND SAY THAT YOUR EYES ARE RED, YOU KNOW.

AN INSECT STUNG THEM.

MAKE UP A BETTER LIE. WON'T YOU?

DID

SOME THING HAPPEN?

YOU TWO ARE TOO PRECIOUS AN EXISTENCE THAT THEY WANT TO BE WITH YOU NO MATTER WHAT. THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVE.

IT'S NOTHING.

IT'S ALL FINE NOW.

BADUMP

MY HEART BEATS WHEN I'M WITH HIM. WHEN I'M NOT, I'M SAD. I'M LOST.

IS THIS IN A GOOD WAY?

WHAT SHE'S FEELING NOW IS WHAT I'VE FELT FOR SO LONG. WHAT HAPPENED?

DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY.

BUT

IF YOU SHOW ME THAT EXPRESS-ION...

I TALKED WITH TACHI-BANA-KUN. AND THEN I REMEMBERED LOTS OF STUFF.

TACHI-BANA-KUN?

NO WILL TO BE LEAST IT WAS BECAUSE OF SOMETHING CLASS REP SAID... HUH?

WAIT A SEC!

YOU'RE HURT!

HUH? OH...

YOU PROBABLY GRAZED IT WHEN YOU FELL...!

IT'S FINE, IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU WERE SAYING YOU REMEM...

IT'S NOT. LET'S TALK ABOUT THAT LATER. YOU SHOULD HURRY BACK AND GET YOUR HAND TREATED.

THEY SHOULD HAVE A FIRST-AID KIT PRE-PARED.

COME BACK WITH ME, THEN.

I'LL COME BACK ONCE I FIND SOME MARBLES.

I PROMISED TO BRING CLASS REP'S BACK AS WELL.

...OKAY. I'LL SEARCH FOR MARBLES WITH YOU...

HURRY BACK AND GET YOUR HAND TREATED.

IT'S YOUR HAND, YOU KNOW?

I MIGHT'VE BEEN TOO FORCEFUL...

HIS RETREATING FIGURE LOOKED LIKE A POOR, ABANDONED PUPPY...

OH, CRAP...! I'VE GOT BLOOD ON MY HAND!

I KNOW HE WANTS TO COME WITH ME BECAUSE HE'S WORRIED.

BUT I'D LIKE IT IF HE PRIORITIZED HIMSELF AT TIMES LIKE THIS

BEFORE HE WAS SMALLER THAN ME

AND ALWAYS NEEDED SAVING

BUT NOW BECAUSE HE'S A BOY

HE'S ALWAYS TRYING TO HELP ME...

MOM'S DEEPLY TOUCHED...

AND I'M GLAD HIS IMPRESSION OF TENDOU-SAN WAS JUST BECAUSE HE'S OVER-THINKING FOR MY SAKE

...BUT ACTUALLY

I THOUGHT HE WAS HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME

WHICH WAS WHY I TOOK IT TOO SERIOUSLY.

REALLY, WHO'S DEPENDENT ON WHOM HERE...

HEY, HEY HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIND THEM IF THEY'RE HIDDEN TOO WELL?

HM?

COULD IT BE THAT MUSE MARBLES ROLLED OVER THERE

WHAT?

FLAG 1

DAMN, IT'S OUT OF BATTERY.

CAN'T BE HELPED, I'LL JUST GO SOME-WHERE WELL-LIT...

FLAG 3

AH ...!!

FLAG 4

NO! I WANT TO GET ONE FOR CLASS REP AT LEAST ...!

HUH?

BUT IT'S DANGEROUS TO LEAVE THE PATH! SO BE CAREFUL!

SHIT

THE FLA...

...GS

WHEN DID IT BEGIN?

CAN YOU STAND?

...

GAH?! EVEN IF YOU'RE JOKING

YOU'RE A BOY. HOW CAN YOU ASK A GIRL YOU...

CAN'T GIVE ME A PIGGYBACK RIDE.

NO. YOU NEED TO GET IT TREATED PROPERLY... <3

COOL BEAUTY WON COOL AND COLLECTED.

BUT HE SAID TSUBASA IS CUTE.

HEHE. SO EVEN AYANO TSUBASA THE GREAT CAN'T DO SOME THINGS.

I FEEL LIKE WE WERE ON EQUAL TERMS BEFORE COMPARED TO NOW.

YOU'RE A TERRIBLE BIG BROTHER

IT'S HER FAULT FOR EATING MY BREAD!

YOU'RE BOTH TERRIBLE.

CARRY ME UP TO MY ROOM.

I'LL GIVE YOU THE PUDDING KEI BAKED YESTERDAY AS THANKS

CLASS REP SAID I SHOULD HAPPILY BE A BAGGAGE TO HIM.

BUT I DON'T WANT THAT. IT'S UNFAIR.

I WANT US TO ALWAYS BE FRIENDS WHO SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

BUT WILL I MAKE HIM WORRY AGAIN BECAUSE OF THIS?

...

OH SORRY! DO IT HURT? JUST A BIT MORE, OKAY...?

CUTE CUTE

I CAN DO IT MYSELF. THANKS.

そっぽ

YEAH. SO SCARY.

CLASS E GIRLS ARE AMAZING

WHEN I SEE THEM I FEEL AS IF I'M BEING SURROUNDED BY WOLVES...

Tsubasa's an easy going kind

Yeah, he looks pretty

A MAID? FROM WHOM...

WHAT'S WRONG, TENDOU?

HUH? OH. NOTHING...

THIS IS AYANO.
TENDOU-SAN, I'M SORRY!
YOU SEE, I FELL FROM A CLIFF AND HURT MY LEG.
I DON'T THINK I CAN RETURN THERE BY MYSELF, SO I NEED YOU TO HELP ME. BUT I WANT YOU TO TELL TACHIBANA-KUN ABOUT IT WHILE KEEPING IT A SECRET FROM YOU.
I'M SOMEWHERE AROUND WHERE THE BOULDER IS

JUST GREAT. NOW MY PHONE'S OUT OF JUICE

NICE TIMING.

I SHOULD'VE OBEDIENTLY CALLED FOR HELP.

But it's no use...

THE PLANTS SAVED ME PLUS THE CLIFF WASN'T THAT STEEP.
BUT IT'D IMPOSSIBLE TO GET UP THERE ON MY OWN.
I KNOW YOU WILL PUSH YOURSELF TO SEARCH FOR ME EVEN WITH A WOUNDED HAND.
TACHIBANA-KUN KNOWS THE MOUNTAIN LIKE THE BACK OF HIS HAND. THAT'S WHY I MADE HIS HELP. I JUST DON'T HAVE HIS CONTACT INFO.
SORRY I HAVE TO KEEP ON YOU FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS, TENDOU-SAN.
I HOPE SHE RECEIVED MY MAIL.
IF I TELL TACHIBANA ABOUT THIS
HE'LL FIND OUT THAT I ACTUALLY HAVE KANO-SAN'S CONTACT INFO.
MAYBE I SHOULD SECRETLY TELL ICHINOSE-KUN...
I'M GLAD KANO'S AT ARMS' LENGTH AGAIN.
...WHILE KEEPING IT A SECRET FROM YOU...
:)
IT'S FINE. KANO'S AT ARMS' LENGTH AGAIN.

36: Test of Courage (3)

To Be Continued